IN THE SPECIFICATION:

IN THE TITLE:

Please amend the title of the invention as follows:

Reinforcing cable for a flexible endless ~~caterpillar~~ track

Please amend the paragraphs beginning on page 1, line 10 as follows:

The invention relates to a reinforcing cable for a flexible endless ~~caterpillar~~ track and to the ~~caterpillar~~ tracks equipped with such cable.

More particularly, the invention relates to a reinforcing cable for a ~~caterpillar~~ track with a flexible endless belt made of an elastomer, this cable comprising a plurality of strands, also called cable strands, each formed from steel filaments, the cable being designed to be wound in a helix in the thickness of the belt, thus forming several turns that are generally parallel to one another.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning on page 1, line 34 as follows:

Flexible belt ~~caterpillar~~ tracks are used increasingly to replace conventional ~~caterpillar~~ tracks composed of mutually articulated metal links.

Such flexible ~~caterpillar~~ tracks are applicable in many all-terrain vehicles, such as agricultural and civil engineering machines.

A flexible ~~caterpillar~~ track of this type is composed of a flexible endless belt made of an elastomer, generally based on natural rubber, which is wound around two end wheels, at least on e of which is driven.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 27 as follows:

~~A caterpillar~~ An endless track with a flexible endless belt of this type is known for example from Patent FR-A-2 711 959 (9313211) in the name of the Applicant. This endless belt has, on the outside, a spiked rolling surface and it is provided on the inside with a row of pyramid-shaped projections, located in the length direction of the belt and generally equidistant apart.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 47 as follows:

The cable must therefore have a favorable ~~favourable~~ size/tensile strength ratio. Moreover, it is essential for the cable, which is embedded in the thickness of the belt, to be able to adhere perfectly to the material of the belt and for this material to be able to penetrate into the very structure of the cable.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 35 as follows:

The aim of the invention is in particular to provide a reinforcing cable for an endless ~~a caterpillar~~ track with a flexible endless belt made of an elastomer, of the type defined above, that combines the advantages of small size with a high tensile strength and that has a structure facilitating the penetration of the elastomer material when the cable is embedded in a belt made of an elastomer.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 33 as follows:

Thus, the cable of the invention is composed of three layers, namely the core forming the inner layer, the intermediate layer and the outer layer. Such a three-layer structure is likely to favor ~~favour~~, for the same size as cables of the prior art, greater longitudinal flexibility while maintaining the advantages of a high tensile strength.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 5 as follows:

According to another aspect, the invention relates to an endless ~~a caterpillar~~ track with a flexible endless belt made of an elastomer, which includes a reinforcing cable as defined above, this cable being wound in a helix in the thickness of the belt in order to form a plurality of turns that are generally parallel to one another.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning on page 7, line 27 as follows:

In particular, the ~~caterpillar~~ endless track may comprise a layer called the "inner layer" located on the inner side of the belt with respect to the turns of the cable and composed of stiffening elements lying in a direction transverse to the turns of the cable.

The ~~caterpillar~~ endless track may also comprise at least two layers called "outer layers" located on the outer side of the belt with respect to the turns of the cable and composed of stiffening elements lying in a direction transverse or oblique to the turns of the cable.

Thus, in one embodiment, the endless ~~caterpillar~~ track comprises two outer layers composed respectively of stiffening elements lying in different oblique directions to the turns of the cable in order to form crossed plies.

If appropriate, the endless ~~caterpillar~~ track may furthermore include an additional outer layer composed of stiffening elements lying in a direction transverse to the turns of the cable.

In such an endless ~~a caterpillar~~ track, the stiffening elements preferably have different dimensions in the width direction of the belt, this being so as to prevent the formation of hard spots that would run the risk of causing the elastomer material to debond.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 39 as follows:

-Figure 2 is a partial side view of a flexible endless ~~caterpillar~~ track wound around a drive wheel;

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 29 as follows:

Referring firstly to Figure 1, this shows a drive device of an endless ~~a flexible caterpillar~~ track 10 wound around a drive wheel 14. Such a drive device can be fitted to all-terrain vehicles of various types, for example agricultural machines, civil engineering machines, etc. The ~~caterpillar~~ endless track 10 is formed from a flexible endless belt 12 made of an elastomer material, for example one based on natural rubber and reinforced internally, that is to say in its thickness, by reinforcements, as will be seen later.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 10 as follows:

The strand 32 of Figure 2 is composed of three superposed layers, an inner layer called the core composed of three twisted filaments 34, an intermediate layer composed of nine twisted filaments 36 and an outer layer composed of fifteen twisted filaments 38. In the example, all the filaments are identical and are made of steel. Typically, they have a diameter of between 0.2 and 0.3 mm, preferably close to 0.25 mm. The twisted assemblies made up of the filaments 34 of the core, the filaments 36 of the intermediate layer and the filaments 38 of the outer layer preferably have different pitches. It may be seen that an aerated structure is thus formed, since it leaves gaps between the layers. Despite this aerated structure, the strand has the advantage of offering great flexibility and high tensile strength. It may also be seen that there is a void at its center ~~centre~~, that is to say along the neutral fiber, this having advantages as regards the strength of the cable. This also allows the elastomer material to penetrate somewhat into the very core of the strand.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 21 as follows:

When the cable 30 of Figure 3 is composed of filaments typically having a diameter of between 0.2 and 0.3 mm, the diameter of the cable is generally between 4 and 6 mm. This diameter value is favorable ~~favourable~~ and particularly suitable for a belt whose thickness E is between 26 and 30 mm, as already indicated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 11 as follows:

As may be seen in the cross section shown in Figure 4, the layers 44, 46 and 48 extend over different widths in the width direction of the belt. This means that they terminate at different distances from the mid-axis of the belt. This prevents the formation of hard spots liable to favor ~~favour~~ debonding of the elastomer material in which the cable and the layers of stiffeners are embedded.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract of the disclosure as follows provided on a separate sheet: